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EYE CENTERS OF SOUTH FLORIDA

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Dec 7, 1999

Dear Sirs;

I am an Ophthalmologist who **uses** corneas supplied by the Florida Lions Eye Bank. The wait list is currently 3 months for a patient to obtain a cornea. The new proposed rules (that sound so good but in reality are unnecessary) would effectively decrease the number of corneas available. The rules would also increase the time-from death of donor to surgery for recipient. This time delay exponentially causes graft failure.

There are currently rules in place to adequately test the donor corneas for disease. Over 28,000 corneas have been processed (and provided free) over the years. Please do not allow well meaning but inadequately informed persons to interfere with this process.

I believe that the legislation is: 21 CFR Parts 210, 216, 820 and 1271
(D o c k e t N o . 97N-4845)

Very truly yours,

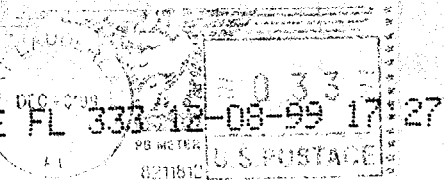
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97N-4845

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